

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 1347 ACTION STATE JAN 30.

QUOTE UNCLAS GENEVA 01347

FOR ASST SECRETARY MAYNES FROM WILKOWSKI

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UN, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: UNCSTD: PROPOSAL FOR 3RD PREPCOM IN WASHINGTON

1. AUSTRIA AMBASSADOR TO UN PETER JANKOWITZ WHO ALSO VICE PRESIDENT TO 2ND PREPCOM APPROACHED USDEL MIDWAY IN MEETING TO INQUIRE WHAT WE THOUGHT ABOUT IDEA OF US HOSTING 3RD PREPCOM IN WASHINGTON IN SEPTEMBER. JANKOWITZ EXPLAINED THAT CONFERENCE ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION (TCDC) IN BUENOS AIRES BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 12 UNDER PRESENT PLANS WOULD OVERLAP IN TIMING WITH 3RD PREPCOM IN NEW YORK. THUS THERE IS CORRIDOR TALK OF HAVING 3RD PREPCOM FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER TCDC SEPT 18-22. DECISION ON SITE AND DATE TO BE TAKEN HERE AT 2ND PREPCOM.

2. HOLDING 3RD PREPCOM AT UN HEADQUARTERS PRESENT PROBLEM BECAUSE UNGA SCHEDULED OPEN SEPTEMBER 19 AND UNCLASSIFIED

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COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES HAD PREEMPTED ONLY OTHER AVAILABLE SPACE. RATHER THAN PROPOSING BUENOS AIRES OR GENEVA (TOO FAR FROM UNGA ACTION) JANKOWITZ SAID PRESENT THINKING WAS TENDING TOWARD WASHINGTON. ALTHOUGH STATE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE FACILITIES CAME FIRST TO JANKOWITZ' MIND, IN SECOND CONVERSATION TODAY HE SUGGESTED POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION OF WORLD BANK, OAS HEADQUARTERS OR "SOME

UNIVERSITY, SUCH AS GEORGE WASHINGTON," PROVIDED THEY HAD FACILITIES.

3. WE TOLD JANKOWITZ WE WOULD NEED MORE DETAILS ON ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS, COSTS AND FUNDING AS WELL AS RESOURCES WHICH UN COULD SUPPLY BEFORE REFERRING MATTER TO WASHINGTON FOR SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. JANKOWITZ PROMISED FURTHER DETAILS, SHOULD HIS GENERAL SOUNDINGS ON SUBJECT SUPPORT HIS VIEW THAT US COULD MAKE A CONTRIBUTION OF THIS KIND AT THIS TIME. MEANWHILE WE PROMISED ONLY TO FLOAT IDEA WITH DEPARTMENT FOR PRELIMINARY REACTION. IN UNCSASSIFIED

URGING SERIOUS US CONSIDERATION JANKOWITZ REFERRED TO "SOME DISAPPOINTMENT IN SOME QUARTERS IN US" THAT US LOST ON VOTE TO HOST UNCSTD, AND SAID HOSTING 3RD PREPCOM MIGHT BE SECOND BEST OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE.

4. WE KNOW FROM OTHER DELEGATIONS THAT AUSTRIANS HAVE BEEN URGED TO HOLD 3RD PREPCOM IN VIENNA AS "DRY RUN" FOR UNCSTD, BUT DECLINED, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF HEAVY WORKLOAD. USDEL SHARES THIS CONCERN, YET SEES SOME PSYCHOLOGICAL ADVANTAGE TO A HOST ROLE SHOULD CONSENSUS HERE TEND IN OUR DIRECTION.

5. HOWEVER, ON BALANCE WE INCLINED TO FAVOR INFORMAL UNCLASSIFIED

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DEPARTMENT APPROACH TO WORLD BANK, RATHER THAN OAS. LATER COULD GIVE LATIN AMERICAN CAST TO MEETING WHEN SOME AFRICANS AND ASIANS ALREADY FEEL THIS REGIONAL GROUP PLAYING DOMINATE ROLE. MOREOVER, IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT WORLD BANK HAS NOT YET TAKEN UNCSTD SERIOUSLY AND NEEDS BE MORE ENGAGED TO REFLECT GREATER RESPONSIVENESS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRY CONCERNS IN THIS AREA. PLEASE INSTRUCT IN IMMEDIATE REPLY. VANDEN HEUVEL UNQUOTE VANCE

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